

# NEWS and GOSSIP OF WASHINGTON



## Broad Smile Worn by President's Stenographer

WASHINGTON—Charles L. Swen, President Wilson's personal stenographer, went to work the other day with a broad smile, a box of cigars, and the happy announcement that he was proud father of a six-and-a-half-pound boy. Throughout the day the smile was there and the announcement was always on tap. Mention of the cigars became unnecessary fifteen minutes after the distribution began.

President Wilson was the first to congratulate the proud parent. The newspaper men were congratulating him all day. It was the first piece of real news they had ever obtained from "Charlie," who, despite his boyish appearance, has been able to hold under seal more big secrets of a man of his years. He not only made the announcement voluntarily, but disregarding a hitherto unbroken habit, he actually confided a secret. He admitted it was possible that the boy would be named Charles Woodrow Swen. And he further admitted that anything he might say by way of a name for the boy would be pure speculation, as, of course, Mrs. Swen would have the final say. It's "Charlie's" first child.

President Wilson brought Swen with him to Washington when he became president. The young man is shy just seven points of the world's record for stenography. He has taken every speech made by the president and through his hands pass all the confidential communications which the president dictates.

But all of this is as nothing compared with the all-important fact that "Charlie" is a father.

Both mother and son are doing nicely. All of which goes to explain why the president's personal stenographer went to work wearing a broad smile, with a box of good cigars in a convenient place and the important announcement of the little stranger's arrival always on tap.

## George Washington Covered With Gray Dust

Former Congressman McCall could see Greenough's George Washington statue in the White House. Years ago Greenough produced a splendid statue in white marble of the Father of His Country and it was placed in the plaza fronting the east of the capitol, dominating its environment. It was a fine piece of art and represented Washington seated after the manner of a Roman patrician, but very scant of drapery, so that he was much exposed to the elements of torrid heat in summer and of icy cold in winter. The statue became more an object of pity than of admiration.

Congressman McCall was among those who felt distressed, and he noticed, moreover, that the fine marble was corroding from the elements, and he and Senator Wetmore of Rhode Island, both being chairmen of the library committee, having in charge the art of the capitol, got their heads together and persuaded congress to pass an act authorizing the removal of the statue to the Smithsonian institution, where it was placed in an apse in the large hall to the west that looks like a chapel. The new home seemed most appropriate; the statue looked like a shrine. It was indoors, anyway.

But they have made changes in the institution, and the chapel is now a mass of cases for exhibition purposes and the statue is quite concealed, surrounded by the lumber and glass, so that the effect it might have is altogether lost. The statue seems thrust into a hole in the wall, as a cast-off among a lot of other debris, and, moreover, it is covered with gray dust, until it is getting to look quite black and certainly repellent.

Another amusing incident in connection with this notable statue is the fact that Senator Gorman of New York during the last session of congress introduced a bill providing for the removal of this work of art to the Smithsonian institution. It is presumed, of course, that the senator had no knowledge of the whereabouts of the statue.

## Eastern Approach of Capitol to Be Replaced

WASHINGTON'S most historic spot is to be replaced. For more than one hundred years the stone steps on the east front of the capitol have staged many eventful and historic scenes. There each president has taken the oath of office and delivered his inaugural address; there President Lincoln made his famous second inaugural speech; there Coxey tried to make a speech; there automobiles have sought to ascend for advertising purposes, and various other efforts have been made to stage "stunts," including that of the motion picture men when a dancer tripped it lightly down the flight in Greekian garb, and there the suffragists reviewed their parades. All this, and the constant stream of visitors (for legislators and those having business in the capitol seldom use this entrance), have worn the Virginia freestone or sandstone thin.

It is cracked in spots, and is unsightly as well as dangerous. Recently proposals were received by Elliott Woods, superintendent of the capitol, for removal of the main entrance steps and replacing them with other marble or granite. The original material, of which the main capitol building also is constructed, will not be replaced, as the other substances are considered more durable.

The appropriation for the work was \$11,000. Among the Washington firms submitting bids were Arthur Cowell, Cranford Paving company, and the Vermont Marble company.

## Your Uncle Sam Is an Unusually "Good Mixer"

At the risk of being flippant it might be said that Uncle Sam is an unusually "good mixer." Not that he has a special knack at being a good fellow with the other nations of the world. That term, however, is used literally, for Uncle Sam is recognized throughout the country by his citizens who own and manage industries, great and small, as about the final authority on just what materials in just what proportions should be mixed together to produce a desired substance.

As a result of this recognition scores of letters reach the bureau of standards, which includes the government's big industrial laboratories, requesting information as to formulas and specifications of all sorts from the correct make-up of ink to fill fountain pens to the proper ingredients for concrete to be exposed to sea water.

The origins of the requests are about as varied as the requests themselves. They come from manufacturers and dealers, technical specialists in many lines, industrial research laboratories, scientific institutions, public utility corporations and commissionaires, students and inventors and from municipalities, states and departments of the national government. Neither the national government nor the state governments are required to pay for these services, but a reasonable fee is charged others who pass their problems up to the bureau's experts.

**Husband Had His Good Points.**  
A London mission worker tells how shocked she was to encounter this bit of cynicism in the slums. The conversation was between two women who married life had not been particularly felicitous. "Well," said one of them, "of course we have our troubles with all of 'em. But I'll say this for my first husband—he's better than any second husband—he's better than my first. He's in jail so much that practically all I earn I have for myself."

**Harbors on the Adriatic.**  
The principal gulfs of the Adriatic are those of Manfredonia on the west, Venice and Trieste on the north, and Quarnaro on the northeast. There are numerous and admirable bay harbors extending from Fiume and culminating in the wonderful landlocked harbor, the Bocche di Cattaro. The Strait of Otranto, where Italy approaches nearest to the Balkan mainland, is 45 miles wide. Here is the magnificent Albanian harbor, Avion.

## FIGHTING THE DEATH-DEALING FLY



In the effort of Chicago to eliminate the pest-carrying domestic fly the children of the public schools were utilized with most satisfactory results. A class in the Curtis school is here seen receiving instruction, the boys and girls dressed for the fray and armed with fly-swatters and cans of kerosene oil.

## IS MADE THE GOAT

Auffenberg Put in Cell to Save Archduke.

Austrian Commander Sent to Prison by Emperor to Prevent Exposure of Disaster in Serbia—Blamed Frederick.

Venice, Italy.—The story of the fall of Gen. Baron Auffenberg from his position as commander of one of the most powerful of the Austro-Hungarian armies to an incommunicado cell in an unnamed prison is one of the most closely guarded secrets in Vienna. Austrian newspapers are not allowed even to mention his name and inquirers in the Hungarian house of deputies have been advised to let the matter drop.

From information which has just reached Venice it appears that the general was summarily arrested as he was about to leave for Switzerland and has not been allowed to communicate even with his family or lawyers. His object in going to Switzerland was the publication of a volume of memoirs, in which he hoped to establish his innocence of mismanaging the Austrian campaign against Serbia by putting the blame upon the shoulders of the commander in chief, the Archduke Frederick.

The following explanation of General Auffenberg's rise and fall comes from personal friends of the general. It is in general agreement with such facts of the case as have been previously established:

"General Auffenberg, as a former minister of war and one of the great soldiers of the empire, was placed in command of the armies which undertook the invasion of Serbia at the beginning of the war. This invasion ended disastrously. The Austrians were defeated with tremendous losses and retired across the frontier in disorder. There was a hasty investigation in Vienna and the investigators reported that General Auffenberg was mainly responsible, owing to his gross mistakes of strategy in planning and carrying out his offense. They recommended that he be suspended from his command.

"But it seemed unwise to the military powers to draw public attention to the extent of the disaster in Serbia, so it was decided that Auffenberg's retirement be attributed to ill health brought on by the strenuous exertions of the campaign, and that the title of baron should be conferred on him to support the impression that after all nothing really serious had happened to the Austrian forces in Serbia. The new baron was ordered home and placed on the retired list among officers at the disposition of the emperor for future military service."

"The general came home mystified and began a quiet investigation of the situation. As soon as he found out that he was blamed for the failure of the Serbian campaign he demanded that his side of the story should be heard. He received no encouragement in official circles, but it became generally known among military men that he planned to re-establish his own reputation by showing that the blame for the failure must be attributed to the Archduke Frederick.

"In one case, for example, the general declared to a group of military men: 'I will not be made the scapegoat for an archduke who ought never to have been intrusted with the supreme command of the imperial forces, but who ought rather to have been locked up in his palace in Vienna to prevent his meddling in the conduct of the war.'

"This remark, with others of similar nature, reached the ears of the archduke, whose influence was exercised to bring about the downfall of the general. The climax came when Auffenberg asserted that, having

## WARSHIPS IN DUEL

British Dreadnaught Drives Turkish Cruiser From Strait.

Salvos of Monster Shells Sweep High Over Ridges of Gallipoli at Dardanelles—Aviator Directs the Fire.

By LOUIS EDGAR BROWNE.  
(Correspondent of the Chicago News.)  
Mudros, Allies' Near Eastern Base.—The Queen Elizabeth and the Goeben have been engaged in battle with each other. The great British dreadnaught, the most powerful battleship afloat, attacked the Goeben under most extraordinary conditions. Although the Queen Elizabeth fired salvos of gigantic highly explosive projectiles, the Goeben escaped unhurt.

Since the allies' forces landed at the Dardanelles late in April the German-Turkish battle cruiser has seriously hampered the advance toward their goal—Constantinople. It has supposedly a base at Chardak, an auxiliary naval port on Gallipoli strait, 25 miles above the narrows. Nearly every day the Goeben has taken a position between Mudros and Cape Nagara, just above the Narrows, and has supported with killing fire the Turkish troops facing the Australian-New Zealand line.

Turkish engineers have established a line of communication between posts of observation and signal stations somewhere east of Malto. Because of these the fire control was made so effective that, although the Goeben was firing over a ridge of mountains, its officers were quickly informed just where each shell hit and what damage it did to the enemy. So constant became the fire of the German battle cruiser and so seriously did it hinder the movements of the allies that it was decided to attempt to destroy it even at considerable cost.

The Queen Elizabeth was selected for the first chance.

A ridge of fairly high mountains runs down the Gallipoli peninsula and a battlement firing across it from the Gulf of Saros to a point above the Narrows was unable to see its target. The Queen Elizabeth could not see the Goeben. An aeroplane was needed to observe the fall of projectiles and to direct the fire.

It was somewhat after noon when a big naval aeroplane mounted and circled over the mountains. A naval observer occupied a seat beside the pilot.

The observer easily found the Goeben. The aeroplane sailed back to the Australian lines and communicated the Goeben's position to the Queen Elizabeth.

Suddenly one of the 15-inch guns of the Queen Elizabeth belched forth a great sheet of flame, followed by a roar that could be heard at Mudros, 60 miles away. The spotting officer, leaning far over the combing of the fire control plot, picked up the giant projectile with his glasses and kept it in view until it disappeared below the ridge of hills. Like a flash his glance turned to the aeroplane soaring high above the mountains. Some distance below the aeroplane there popped into being three black dots. An instant later three more black dots appeared. These were small smoke bombs dropped by the observer to signal where the shell had struck relatively to the target.

"Up 300—left three!" shouted the officer to a sailor standing at his elbow. The first shot had fallen 300 yards short and 300 yards to the right of the Goeben.

An instant later a salvo from the Queen Elizabeth's entire broadside of eight 15-inch guns crashed out. Eight monster shells, each weighing 2,000 pounds, went careening through space at a speed of 2,500 feet a second. The Goeben took alarm after two or three salvos and fled at top speed northeast to the base at Chardak.

**Manhattan's Only Farmer Dead.**  
New York.—Manhattan's only farmer who every day took a truckload of garden produce to market, is dead on his four block farm at Fort George and Audubon avenues.

**Prisoners to Cut Weeds.**  
Will Be Used to Improve the Highways in Wayne County, Indiana.

Richmond, Ind.—The elimination of weeds along the public highways is a part of the work of the "road improvement" according to Superintendent Jones of the Wayne County Department of Highways, and accordingly he will begin within the next few weeks to cut weeds all over the county.

Prisoners from the county jail will be used in this work, as they have been during the spring in road repair work. The county now has an automobile truck used for the transportation of prisoners to various parts of the county.

## WARSHIPS IN DUEL

British Dreadnaught Drives Turkish Cruiser From Strait.

Salvos of Monster Shells Sweep High Over Ridges of Gallipoli at Dardanelles—Aviator Directs the Fire.

By LOUIS EDGAR BROWNE.  
(Correspondent of the Chicago News.)  
Mudros, Allies' Near Eastern Base.—The Queen Elizabeth and the Goeben have been engaged in battle with each other. The great British dreadnaught, the most powerful battleship afloat, attacked the Goeben under most extraordinary conditions. Although the Queen Elizabeth fired salvos of gigantic highly explosive projectiles, the Goeben escaped unhurt.

Since the allies' forces landed at the Dardanelles late in April the German-Turkish battle cruiser has seriously hampered the advance toward their goal—Constantinople. It has supposedly a base at Chardak, an auxiliary naval port on Gallipoli strait, 25 miles above the narrows. Nearly every day the Goeben has taken a position between Mudros and Cape Nagara, just above the Narrows, and has supported with killing fire the Turkish troops facing the Australian-New Zealand line.

Turkish engineers have established a line of communication between posts of observation and signal stations somewhere east of Malto. Because of these the fire control was made so effective that, although the Goeben was firing over a ridge of mountains, its officers were quickly informed just where each shell hit and what damage it did to the enemy. So constant became the fire of the German battle cruiser and so seriously did it hinder the movements of the allies that it was decided to attempt to destroy it even at considerable cost.

The Queen Elizabeth was selected for the first chance.

A ridge of fairly high mountains runs down the Gallipoli peninsula and a battlement firing across it from the Gulf of Saros to a point above the Narrows was unable to see its target. The Queen Elizabeth could not see the Goeben. An aeroplane was needed to observe the fall of projectiles and to direct the fire.

It was somewhat after noon when a big naval aeroplane mounted and circled over the mountains. A naval observer occupied a seat beside the pilot.

The observer easily found the Goeben. The aeroplane sailed back to the Australian lines and communicated the Goeben's position to the Queen Elizabeth.

Suddenly one of the 15-inch guns of the Queen Elizabeth belched forth a great sheet of flame, followed by a roar that could be heard at Mudros, 60 miles away. The spotting officer, leaning far over the combing of the fire control plot, picked up the giant projectile with his glasses and kept it in view until it disappeared below the ridge of hills. Like a flash his glance turned to the aeroplane soaring high above the mountains. Some distance below the aeroplane there popped into being three black dots. An instant later three more black dots appeared. These were small smoke bombs dropped by the observer to signal where the shell had struck relatively to the target.

"Up 300—left three!" shouted the officer to a sailor standing at his elbow. The first shot had fallen 300 yards short and 300 yards to the right of the Goeben.

An instant later a salvo from the Queen Elizabeth's entire broadside of eight 15-inch guns crashed out. Eight monster shells, each weighing 2,000 pounds, went careening through space at a speed of 2,500 feet a second. The Goeben took alarm after two or three salvos and fled at top speed northeast to the base at Chardak.

**Manhattan's Only Farmer Dead.**  
New York.—Manhattan's only farmer who every day took a truckload of garden produce to market, is dead on his four block farm at Fort George and Audubon avenues.

**Prisoners to Cut Weeds.**  
Will Be Used to Improve the Highways in Wayne County, Indiana.

Richmond, Ind.—The elimination of weeds along the public highways is a part of the work of the "road improvement" according to Superintendent Jones of the Wayne County Department of Highways, and accordingly he will begin within the next few weeks to cut weeds all over the county.

Prisoners from the county jail will be used in this work, as they have been during the spring in road repair work. The county now has an automobile truck used for the transportation of prisoners to various parts of the county.

# STORIES from the BIG CITIES



## "Shoe Breaker" Uses Alarm Clock in a Box Car

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—An alarm clock is just as much a necessity to a man who rooms in a box car as to a man who lives in a fine residence or hotel, according to Joseph Monahan, municipal court prisoner. Patrolman Komers was startled by an alarm clock as he went through the Milwaukee yards at Sixth avenue S. He looked in a box car just as Monahan jumped to his feet, rubbed his eyes and shook a collection of excelsior and hay from his clothes. A little later Monahan and his alarm clock, ticking so it could be heard 40 feet away, were in court. Monahan was charged with vagrancy.

"What were you doing with the clock?" Judge W. W. Bardwell queried of the owner of the timepiece.

"Well, you see, I'm a traveling man and I room right there in the car," he said. "You see, Judge, I stay up pretty late and I might oversleep, so that they would pull my room out to some other town. Then I would be a long way from my work. I always pick a car that will stay overnight, but I don't want to oversleep."

"What is your work?" continued the court.

"Why, Judge, I'm a shoebreaker. I break in new shoes for the section men who have sore feet. I wear them around till they get nice and soft, and then break another pair. I get a quarter a pair."

"You're just the man we want at the workhouse," said Judge Bardwell. "We have plenty of heavy shoes there and someone will call you early every morning."

Monahan left his alarm clock with the police and went to Camden place to take a ten days' job.

## Matrimony to Be Absolutely Free in New York

NEW YORK.—New York's three famous cupids have been removed from office for grafting while making the road to matrimony easy. In this city aldermen are not permitted to charge a fee for performing marriages and, so far as the outside public knew, matrimony was at least one thing that could be had in New York city free. As a matter of fact, weddings in the municipal building performed by aldermen netted the so-called wedding trust about \$18 a day. This was taken from those unfamiliar with the laws of the state.

After securing, free of charge, a license to wed, couples were piloted from the office of the city clerk to the marriage bureau, where an alderman could usually be found to legalize the union. For simply directing couples from one room to another the members of the wedding trust demanded and usually received fees for their services.

The commissioner of accounts, who conducted the investigation, reported the condition disclosed as intolerable and recommended the removal from the building of the three active agents of Cupid. The commissioner found that the fees were paid usually by those who believed payment was compulsory and that immigrants were principally the ones upon whom extortion was practiced.

It was not intimated that the marrying alderman profited from the grafting upon the unsuspecting bridegrooms, which was a surprising revelation to those who have met and known a New York city alderman. In future, matrimony, as well as salvation, is to be absolutely free in New York. All else must be paid for at current rates.

## Kansas Girls Are Drilling for National Guard

WICHITA, KAN.—Kansas girls are trying to get into the state militia. They want to reform it and bring it up to a standard of which the state can be proud. During the last five years the Kansas National Guard has had a rough experience. Membership has slumped considerably and companies in many of the larger towns have disbanded from lack of interest.

Knowing these facts, twenty-four Walnut Grove girls, under the leadership of Miss Vera Snyder, have formed a cadet corps with the idea of later securing the O. K. of the United States war department, making them officially a part of the state militia.

The company is the first of its kind in Kansas, but the interested young women declare it won't be the last. Walnut Grove girls declare they are going to start a state-wide campaign to have similar corps started in other towns.

At present the work of the company will be happy mixture of war and peace. Drilling and crocheting will alternate regularly. Darning and mending will be mixed with target practice and military drill. Along with handling a rifle the girls will be instructed in how to prepare a comfortable camp out of doors.

There will be uniforms. They will be khaki, cut out on the latest military lines. Trousers? The girls decline to say a word about them. All they admit is that there will be uniforms, but whether skirts will be included or not, remains a mystery. It is thought trousers similar to men's riding breeches will be the style chosen.

## Midnight Marketing Is Latest Fad in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, MO.—Midnight marketing has come to be society's most profitable diversion. It has been learned from farmers who sell their garden truck and fruit at the new St. Louis Country Producers' market, Sarah street and Laclede avenue. It is no longer uncommon to see fashionably gown women and men in evening dress stop at the market on their way home from the theater, dance or party, select the fruit for their breakfast tables and the vegetables for their dinners. They carry their purchases in market baskets to waiting automobiles and resume their journeys homeward.

The midnight shoppers, as they have been christened, do not always arrive at the market at midnight, the farmers say. Most of them come later—long after street cars are on the owl schedule. There is an advantage in getting to the market about 2 a. m., as most of the farmers begin stocking their stalls with fresh products after midnight.

Women who shop after midnight have the edge on those who wait until daylight. They have a wider choice and an opportunity to buy fresher fruit and vegetables.

Scientists, psychologists, professional men and mere husbands, who have insinuated that feminism and kindred movements were transplanted women from the kitchen to public life, should visit the market. For at the new enterprise, one sees a healthy indication in the bargaining of modern men and women that human nature is the same as it has always been.

**Inspiration Renewed.**  
Max Bruch, the German composer, who, on his seventieth birthday in 1908, declared, "I shall write no more, for the source of my inspiration has dried up," has just completed, in his seventy-eighth year, a new work, a concerto for two pianos and orchestra. It is the only composition of this kind which has ever emanated from his pen, for Bruch, although himself a magnificent pianist, has, strange to say, never written anything of importance for the keyboard instrument.

**London Not Foreign to France.**  
The loan of 40 masterpieces from the Louvre, Luxembourg, and Versailles museums to the military exhibition at the Guildhall is remarkable as being the first time such a loan has taken place. There is a law against any objects in the national collections being lent to a "foreign country." When the matter was referred to the ministry of the Beaux Arts, he replied: "London, especially the Guildhall, is not a foreign country new to us."—London Globe.

**Grave Digger's Record.**  
Brazil, Ind.—William de Brular, who has dug more than 262,500 cubic feet of earth and rock from graves alone. Of the 3,500 graves 171 were for persons who met death by accident, five were victims of murderers, one was a murderer who took his own life and 63 were for persons who had committed suicide.

**Manhattan's Only Farmer Dead.**  
New York.—Manhattan's only farmer who every day took a truckload of garden produce to market, is dead on his four block farm at Fort George and Audubon avenues.

**Prisoners to Cut Weeds.**  
Will Be Used to Improve the Highways in Wayne County, Indiana.